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A.D. 1792 . . . . . N<sup>o</sup> 1912.

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S P E C I F I C A T I O N

OF

JOHN SLEATH,

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TRUSSES.

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**Trusses.**

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**SLEATH'S SPECIFICATION.**

**TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I, JOHN SLEATH,** of Fleet Street, in the City of London, Truss Maker, send greeting.

**WHEREAS** His most Excellent Majesty, King George the Third did, by His Letters Patent under the Great Seal of Great Britain, bearing date at  
5 Westminster, the Eighteenth day of October now last, give and grant unto the said John Sleath, that I, the said John Sleath, during the term of years therein mentioned, should and lawfully might make, use, exercise, and vend, within England, Wales, and the Town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, my Invention of "**AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SPRINGS FOR TRUSSES AND THE**  
10 **COVERINGS THEREOF, AND WHICH METHOD OF MANUFACTURING SPRINGS MAY BE APPLIED TO STEEL BACKS AND OTHER USEFUL PURPOSES;**" in which said Letters Patent there is contained a proviso, obliging me, the said John Sleath, by an instrument in writing under my hand and seal, to cause a particular description of the nature of my said Invention, and in what manner the same  
15 is to be performed, to be inrolled in His Majesty's High Court of Chancery within one calendar month next after the date of the said Letters Patent.

**NOW KNOW YE,** that as to such part thereof as is specified and described in the said Letters Patent as relate to trusses, and the method of making thereof, I have to describe, is done in the manner following:—

20 The springs are to be made either with or without a pad or neck to the pad, but after being so made, the spring must be tempered to the elasticity required by the usual process. If the spring is made without the neck of the pad, or the pad, it must be rivetted or otherwise fastened to the neck of the pad



*Sleath's Improvement in Manufacturing Springs and Coverings for Trusses.*

or pad; but that is to be done after they have respectively been tinned, as hereafter described. The method of tinning is done in the common form, as iron plates or other things are usually done, either by pickleing, fying, or otherwise. That as this Invention is particularly intended for the use of persons in warm climates, and sea or warfaring persons, persons of robust or 5 weak habit of body, who are liable to perspire, and particularly for children that wet them by urine, and by which respiration or wet, springs made in the ordinary manner will rust, and consequently lose their elasticity, the tinning of the springs will (as by experience made on trial) prevent rust, and, consequently, prevent them losing their elasticity; and by the further im- 10 provement of having an opportunity of changing the cloathing or covering, it gives a pleasing relief to all persons who are under the necessity of wearing trusses, and particularly to those of the above description. It is a grand and long wished-for Invention, and an object which after many attempts has been at last discovered. 15

The description of the method how the shifting of the cloathing or covering of the spring, &c<sup>a</sup>, may be made, so as to be removed and changed at pleasure, is as follows:—The pad being made of cork or other substance (and which may be fixed to the cloathing or covering of the spring, &c<sup>a</sup>, or made independent thereof (as the maker thinks proper), on which is fixed a plate either of brass, iron, or 20 other metal or metallic substance, and which is sewed, rivetted, or otherwise fastened to the covering of the pad and plate, and which cloathing or covering may be made of leather, silk, sattin, or other materials, and in which pad plate one, two, or more holes are made, bored, drilled, or framed, for the purpose of receiving one, two, or more pins, spikes, rivets, screws, worms, 25 or other fastening, which said pins, spikes, rivets, screws, or other fastenings are to be rivetted, screwed, or otherwise affixed to the pad of the spring, for the purpose of keeping the whole steady, and in which said plate or in the spring pad is to be formed, inserted, put, or affixed a screw, turnbuckle, lock, ketch, or other fastening, which fastens the pad plate and the spring pad 30 together, and which may with ease release the spring from the pad plate, by which means the whole of the cloathing or covering may be taken off, and a new or dry one put on, and that in a very short time. The pad end of the cloathing or covering being left open, and not sewed down, as in common cases, the studs which are fixed in the spring pad confine that part, and which, by opening or 35 undoing the screw, turnbuckle, lock, ketch, or other fastening, immediately leaves the spring at liberty to be drawn out of the cloathing or covering thereof, the cloathing and covering being made so as to slip off the spring at pleasure if wanted so to do.

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*Sleath's Improvement in Manufacturing Springs and Coverings for Trusses.*

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That as the method of tinning of springs without their losing their elasticity being entirely new and never before practised, I, the said John Sleath, conceive that I, by the said Letters Patent, have an exclusive right to apply the process to springs of all descriptions, as they may be applied to locks and other  
5 things not immediately exposed to the air.

That in steel and other backs, and other things made use of particularly by young ladies, and for other purposes where the object is liable to heat, wet, or any moisture (which will occasion rust and consequently decay), this Invention of tinning them is particularly applicable, as their being tinned prevents the  
10 force of the heat, wet, or moisture from penetrating and hurting the metal, which it otherwise would do.

In witness whereof, I, the said John Sleath, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this Fourteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and ninety-two.

JOHN (L.S) SLEATH.

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AND BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the same Fourteenth day of November, in the year above mentioned, the aforesaid John Sleath came before our Lord the King in His Chancery, and acknowledged the Specification aforesaid, and all and every thing therein contained, in form above  
20 written. And also the Specification aforesaid was stamped according to the tenor of the Statute in that case made and provided.

J<sup>N</sup> SPRANGER.

Inrolled the same Fourteenth day of November, in the year above written.

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